UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

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FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY EXPECTED AT 10:00 A.M. FRIDAY, MAY 1, 1981

#### STATEMENT OF

HENRY ESCHWEGE, DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE
AND TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES SENATE



ON

[Provisions of s. 821,

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

WE WELCOME YOUR INVITATION TO BE HERE TODAY TO DISCUSS OUR WORK AT THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

AS REQUESTED, I WILL FOCUS MY COMMENTS ON THOSE ASPECTS OF OUR WORK WHICH RELATE TO THE PROVISIONS OF S. 821, THE PROPOSED FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1981. THIS BILL WOULD (1) AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSION FOR A THREE YEAR PERIOD INSTEAD OF ON A PERMANENT BASIS AS IS PRESENTLY THE CASE, AND (2) ESTABLISH A SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COMMISSION TO COMMUNICATIONS PROVIDERS AND USERS. FIRST LET ME GIVE YOU A BRIEF SUMMARY OF GAO'S INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNICATIONS REGULATION.

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## GAO INTEREST AND INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNICATIONS REGULATION

DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS, WE HAVE EVALUATED AND REPORTED ON A WIDE RANGE OF COMMISSION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES INCLUDING BROADCAST POLICIES, INTERNATIONAL FACILITIES PLANNING, FIELD OPERATIONS, AND COMMON CARRIER ISSUES. WE HAVE ALSO REPORTED ON THE COMMISSION'S ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS AND ITS ACTIONS TO ESTABLISH A FEE SCHEDULE UNDER THE INDEPENDENT OFFICES APPROPRIATION ACT, 1952. WE ARE CURRENTLY COMPLETING WORK RELATING TO (1) CERTAIN COMMISSION FACILITY LEASING PRACTICES, AND (2) COMMISSION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR REGULATING DOMESTIC COMMON CARRIERS. WE ALSO HAVE ONGOING A REVIEW OF THE COMMISSION'S MANAGEMENT OF THE RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM. A LIST OF OUR REPORTS SINCE 1976 IS INCLUDED IN APPENDIX I. IN APPENDIX II, WE HAVE HIGHLIGHTED SECTIONS OF OUR REPORTS WHICH RELATE TO LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN THE 97TH CONGRESS.

# PERIODIC AUTHORIZATION OF THE COMMISSION WOULD STRENGTHEN THE REGULATORY PROCESS

OUR WORK IN COMMUNICATIONS REGULATION HAS STRONGLY
DEMONSTRATED THE DESIRABILITY OF MAINTAINING CLOSE CONGRESSIONAL SCRUTINY AND OVERSIGHT OF THE COMMISSION'S
OPERATIONS. SUCH OVERSIGHT SHOULD INCREASE COMMISSION ACCOUNTABILITY, PROVIDE IT WITH INCREASED CONGRESSIONAL GUIDANCE, AND KEEP THE CONGRESS BETTER INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS
AND ACTIVITIES AT THE COMMISSION AS WELL AS IN THE FIELD OF
COMMUNICATIONS GENERALLY.

THE PERIODIC AUTHORIZATIONS PROVIDED FOR IN S. 821

AFFORD THE CONGRESS AN ADDED MECHANISM FOR OVERSEEING THE

COMMISSION'S ACTIVITIES AND FOR ENSURING THE EFFECTIVENESS

OF ITS REGULATORY PROCESS. IT WOULD ALSO REQUIRE ADVOCATES

OF CONTINUED REGULATION TO AFFIRMATIVELY SUPPORT THEIR

POSITION AND ENCOURAGE THE COMMISSION TO THOROUGHLY EVALUATE

ITS PROGRAMS AND ASSESS ITS NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES PRIOR TO A

REAUTHORIZATION REVIEW. IN OUR JULY 1979 REPORT "ORGANIZING

THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR GREATER MANAGEMENT

AND REGULATORY EFFECTIVENESS," WE RECOMMENDED THAT SUCH A

PROCESS BE ESTABLISHED.

OUR WORK RELATING TO VARIOUS COMMISSION PROGRAMS HAS ALSO INDICATED THE NEED FOR CLOSER CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT. AS TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE OCCURS, SUCH OVERSIGHT CAN BE PARTICULARLY VALUABLE IN REVISING REGULATORY POLICIES AND METHODS. IT CAN ENSURE THAT THE COMMISSION NOT ONLY DEVELOPS POLICIES WHICH REFLECT CONGRESSIONAL INTENT BUT ALSO TAKES ACTIONS NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT THEM. FOR EXAMPLE, COMMISSION POLICIES TO OPEN DOMESTIC COMMON CARRIER COMMUNICATIONS TO COMPETITION ARE DESERVING OF PRAISE. THEY OFFER THE POTENTIAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HOST OF NEW AND IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES. THE ULTIMATE SUCCESS OF SUCH POLICIES WILL DEPEND HEAVILY ON FCC'S FORMULATION OF RULES AND PROCEDURES TO PROMOTE FAIR COMPETITION AMONG ALL INDUSTRY PARTICIPANTS. TWO KEY AREAS IN WHICH ATTENTION IS REQUIRED—AS THE COMMISSION ITSELF HAS LONG RECOGNIZED—ARE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LONG—TERM COSTING

APPROACH AND THE REVISION OF ITS UNIFORM SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTS.
LITTLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE, HOWEVER, IN EITHER AREA.

CLOSE CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT CAN BE A POSITIVE FACTOR
IN ENSURING THAT THESE AND OTHER CRITICAL TASKS, WHICH MUST
BE UNDERTAKEN TO CREATE A COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT, ARE QUICKLY
AND SUCCESSFULLY ACCOMPLISHED. SUCH TASKS INCLUDE MONITORING
THE ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SEPARATE SUBSIDIARIES
AND DESIGNING ARRANGEMENTS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE ALL COMMON
CARRIERS FAIR, NON-DISCRIMINATORY ACCESS TO LOCAL TELEPHONE
EXCHANGE FACILITIES.

THE ADDITIONAL OVERSIGHT OPPORTUNITIES WHICH MAY BE REALIZED AS A RESULT OF PERIODIC AUTHORIZATIONS WILL BE EQUALLY VALUABLE IN OTHER AREAS--FOR EXAMPLE, IN GUIDING AND ASSESSING COMMISSION ACTIONS TO MODIFY BROADCAST REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS AS ADDITIONAL COMPETITION DEVELOPS. CONGRESSIONAL GUIDANCE IS ALSO NEEDED AS THE COMMISSION REORGANIZES ITS ACTIVITIES TO MINIMIZE THE COST AND CONTROVERSY OF ITS ACTIONS--SUCH AS ITS RECENT EFFORT TO RELOCATE ITS HEADQUARTERS TO ROSSLYN, VIRGINIA.

IN ENACTING OVERSIGHT LEGISLATION, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT SETTING PROGRAM OBJECTIVES AND EVALUATING PROGRAM PERFORMANCE ARE TWO CRITICAL ELEMENTS NEEDED FOR AN EFFECTIVE REVIEW PROCESS. THE LEGISLATION COULD, FOR EXAMPLE, REQUIRE THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE THE CONGRESS WITH STATEMENTS OF THE COMMISSION'S GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND PRIORITIES AS WELL AS PERIODIC REPORTS EVALUATING PROGRESS IN MEETING THESE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES. SUCH A REQUIREMENT WOULD ALSO HELP

FOCUS COMMISSION ATTENTION ON THE NEGLECTED AREA OF LONG-RANGE PLANNING. THESE PROCEDURES COULD PROVIDE THE CONGRESS AND THE COMMISSION BENCHMARKS FOR FUTURE REVIEW DURING REAUTHORIZATION.

THE REESTABLISHMENT OF FEES FOR COMMISSION SERVICES IS DESIRABLE

SINCE JANUARY 1977, THE COMMISSION HAS NOT CHARGED

FEES FOR ITS SERVICES. ONE MONTH EARLIER, THE U.S. COURT

OF APPEALS OVERTURNED PREVIOUS COMMISSION FEE SCHEDULES

AND CALLED FOR IT TO CLARIFY THE JUSTIFICATION FOR THE

SCHEDULES AND TO RECALCULATE ITS FEES ACCORDINGLY. IN A

MAY 1977 REPORT, PREPARED AT THE REQUEST OF THIS COMMITTEE

AND THE THEN SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS, HOUSE COMMITTEE

ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE, WE STATED THAT THE COM
MISSION COULD AND SHOULD RECALCULATE PREVIOUS FEE SCHEDULES,

REFUND EXCESS FEES COLLECTED, AND ESTABLISH A NEW FEE

SCHEDULE. WE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE CONGRESS COULD PRO
VIDE ADDITIONAL LEGISLATIVE GUIDANCE IN THIS AREA BY EITHER

AMENDING THE INDEPENDENT OFFICES APPROPRIATION ACT, 1952

OR BY ENACTING NEW LEGISLATION. S. 821 WOULD BE IN LINE WITH

OUR SUGGESTION.

WE BELIEVE S. 821 INTENDS THAT PRIVATE BENEFICIARIES PAY THE FULL COST INCURRED BY THE COMMISSION IN PROVIDING THEM A PRODUCT, SERVICE, OR PRIVILEGE. WE SUPPORT FEES ESTABLISHED IN THIS MANNER. WE NOTE HOWEVER, THAT IF SPECIFIC FEES ARE

FOR NEW SERVICES WOULD REQUIRE LEGISLATIVE CHANGE. TO AVOID THIS, YET HAVE A FEE SCHEDULE BASED ON COST, SECTION 6(a)

COULD BE REVISED TO AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH A SCHEDULE OF FEES TO RECOVER THE FULL COST OF SERVICE FROM PRIVATE BENEFICIARIES. REVISING SECTION 6(b)(1) TO AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSION TO ADJUST FEES AS ITS COSTS BY SERVICE CHANGE WOULD ALSO BE CONSISTENT WITH ESTABLISHING FEES BASED ON COST.

ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS IN COMMISSION ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT ARE ALSO NEEDED

TO FURTHER IMPROVE THE COMMISSION'S DECISIONMAKING AND ITS
OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS, WE RECOMMENDED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES IN OUR
1979 REPORT TO MODIFY THE COMMISSION'S SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND
STRUCTURE. SPECIFICALLY, WE FAVORED REDUCING THE NUMBER OF
COMMISSIONERS FROM SEVEN TO FIVE, STRENGTHENING THE CHAIRMAN'S
ROLE AS ADMINISTRATIVE HEAD OF THE AGENCY, PROVIDING FOR SENATE
CONFIRMATION OF THE CHAIRMAN, LEGISLATIVELY ESTABLISHING THE POSITION
OF MANAGING DIRECTOR AT THE COMMISSION AND LENGTHENING THE TERMS OF
THE COMMISSIONERS. I WILL BRIEFLY DISCUSS EACH OF THESE
RECOMMENDATIONS.

## REDUCING THE NUMBER OF COMMISSIONERS

ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THAT THERE IS NO IDEAL SIZE FOR
A REGULATORY COMMISSION, WE BELIEVE THAT REDUCING THE NUMBER
OF COMMISSIONERS FROM SEVEN TO FIVE IS LIKELY TO PROVIDE
SEVERAL IMPORTANT BENEFITS. IT SHOULD MITIGATE CERTAIN
ORGANIZATIONAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH MULTIMEMBER COMMISSIONS;
IT SHOULD RESULT IN IMPROVED MANAGEMENT BY MAKING THE CHAIRMAN'S
LEADERSHIP JOB EASIER; AND IT SHOULD REDUCE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.
AT PRESENT, BECAUSE OF UNFILLED VACANCIES THE COMMISSION HAS ONLY
FIVE MEMBERS.

#### STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF THE CHAIRMAN AND ESTAB-LISHING A MANAGING DIRECTOR

THERE IS SUBSTANTIAL MERIT IN THE COMMISSION FORM OF ORGANIZATION FOR REGULATING THE COMPLEX AND POLITICALLY SENSITIVE AREA OF COMMUNICATIONS. A MULTIMEMBER COMMISSION CANNOT, HOWEVER, EFFECTIVELY ADMINISTER THE DAILY AFFAIRS OF A REGULATORY AGENCY. WHILE THE LANGUAGE OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT PROVIDES THAT THE COMMISSION'S CHAİRMAN SHALL SERVE AS ITS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, THE CHAIRMAN'S ADMINISTRATIVE PREROGATIVES ARE SUBSTANTIALLY WEAKER THAN AT OTHER COMMISSIONS. WE, THEREFORE, RECOMMENDED THAT THE CONGRESS MAKE THE CHAIRMAN THE ADMINISTRATIVE HEAD OF THE AGENCY AND ENDOW HIM WITH FULL EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY, INCLUDING THE POWER TO SELECT THE

HEADS OF MAJOR ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS (SUBJECT TO COMMISSION APPROVAL), TO DELEGATE RESPONSIBILITIES, TO ASSIGN AND TRANSFER STAFF MEMBERS, AND TO MAKE MANAGEMENT POLICY DETERMINATIONS, INCLUDING DETERMINATIONS AS TO THE COMMISSION'S INTERNAL ORGANIZATION.

IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANT MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP ROLE
WE HAVE OUTLINED FOR THE CHAIRMAN, THE DESIGNATION OF ONE
COMMISSIONER AS CHAIRMAN SHOULD ALSO BE SUBJECT TO SENATE
CONFIRMATION. SUCH CONFIRMATION WOULD BE REQUIRED SEPARATE
AND APART FROM CONFIRMING COMMISSION MEMBERS AS IS CURRENTLY
REQUIRED. THIS PROCEDURE WOULD PERMIT SENATE EVALUATION OF A
NOMINEE'S MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS IN THE CASE
WHERE AN INCUMBENT COMMISSIONER HAS BEEN NAMED BY THE PRESIDENT
TO FILL A VACANCY CREATED BY AN OUTGOING CHAIRMAN.

THE COMMISSION HAS AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WHO HAS
RESPONSIBILITY FOR VARIOUS ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS SUCH AS
PROCUREMENT, PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, AND BUDGET PREPARATION,
BUT HAS NO AUTHORITY TO DIRECT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE BUREAUS
AND OFFICES. CONSEQUENTLY, NO ONE INDIVIDUAL FUNCTIONS
AS THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER AT THE COMMISSION, AND THE
COMMISSION'S BUREAUS AND OFFICES HAVE OPERATED INDEPENDENTLY
OF ONE ANOTHER WITH RESULTANT PROBLEMS IN COORDINATION,
COMMUNICATION, AND DIRECTION. WE CONCLUDED THAT A CENTRAL
LOCUS OF MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY--A MANAGING DIRECTOR--WAS
NEEDED. TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF A STRONG MANAGING
DIRECTOR IN IMPROVING OVERALL COMMISSION MANAGEMENT, WE
RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE
FOR THIS POSITION.

## LENGTHENING THE TERMS OF COMMISSIONERS

WE BELIEVE THAT SIGNIFICANT BENEFITS CAN ALSO BE
OBTAINED FROM LENGTHENING THE SEVEN YEAR TERMS OF COMMISSIONERS. SUCH ACTION SHOULD HAVE A FAVORABLE IMPACT ON THE
DEVELOPMENT OF A CAREER CONCEPT OF COMMISSION SERVICE, ON THE
DEVELOPMENT OF REGULATORY PROFESSIONALISM AND ACCUMULATION OF
TECHNICAL EXPERTISE, AND ON FOSTERING REAL INDEPENDENCE AND
INTEGRITY IN THE COLLEGIAL DECISIONMAKING PROCESS. IT SHOULD
ALSO SERVE TO INCREASE (1) INTEREST IN THE EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMMISSION, AND (2) SUPPORT FOR ESTABLISHING
INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS MORE CONDUCIVE TO GOOD MANAGEMENT.

IN CONCLUSION, WE BELIEVE THAT THE CHANGES EMBODIED IN S. 821, TOGETHER WITH THOSE OTHER CHANGES WHICH WE HAVE PROPOSED IN THE COMMISSION'S ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT CAN FORM A SOUND CORNERSTONE FOR ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE COMMISSION'S OPERATIONS.

THIS CONCLUDES BY PREPARED STATEMENT. WE SHALL BE GLAD TO RESPOND TO ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.

# GAO REPORTS ON THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION JULY 1976 - MARCH 1981

Report Title	Date of Issue	Report Requestor
Cable Television And A Regulatory Policy (CED-76-124)	7/16/76	Subcommittee on Communications, House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce
Information Reported By Federal Organi- zations On The Purpose, Duration, And Cost Associated With Cable Television (CED-76-149)	9/15/76	Subcommittee on Communications, House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce
Establishing A Proper Fee Schedule Under The Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1952 (CED-77-70)	5/6/77	Chairman, Subcom- mittee on Communi- cations, Senate Committee on Com- merce, Science, and Transportation Chairman, Subcom- mittee on Communi- cations, House Committee on Inter- state and Foreign Commerce
Responsibilities, Actions, And Coordination Of Federal Agencies In International Telecommunications Services (CED-77-132)	9/29/77	Chairman and Rankirg . Minority Member, Sub- committee on Communi- cations, House Com- mittee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce
Greater Coordination And A More Effective Policy Needed For Inter- national Telecommunica- tions Facilities (CED-78-87)	3/31/78	Chairman and Ranking Minority Member, Sub- committee on Communi- cations, House Commit- tee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

APPENDIX I

Report Title	Date of Issue	Report Requestor
The Role Of Field Operations In The Federal Communications Commission's Regulatory Structure (CED-78-151)	8/18/78	Report initiated by GAO
Developing A Domestic Common Carrier Tele- communications Policy: What Are The Issues? (CED-79-18)	1/24/79	Report initiated by GAO
Selected FCC Regulatory Policies: Their Purpose And Consequences For Commercial Radio and TV (CED-79-62)	6/4/79	Report initiated by GAO
Organizing The Federal Communications Commission For Greater Management And Regulatory Effective- ness (CED-79-107)		Chairman, Subcom- mittee on Communi- cations, Senate Committee on Com- merce, Science, and Transportation
Outlook Dim For Revised Accounting System Needed For Changing Telephone Industry (FGMS-80-9)	11/13/79	Report initiated by GAO
FCC's Decision To Consolidate Licensing Division In Gettysburg, PA, Was Made Without Adequate Analysis (CED-80-27)	12/3/79	Senator Paul S. Sarbanes and Chairman, House Committee on Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs
Letter Commenting on Certain Aspects of H.R. 6121, the Tele- communications Act of 1980 B-200146 (CED 0-371)	9/5/80	Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary

#### GAO WORK RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN THE 97TH CONGRESS

## APPLICABLE SECTIONS OF LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN THE 97TH CONGRESS

#### GAO WORK

#### Senate

S. 22 First Amendment Clarification Act of 1981

Selected FCC Regulatory Policies: Their Purpose and Consequences for Commercial Radio and TV (CED-79-62; June 4, 1979)

- Sec. 2 Amends section 309 of the Communications Act of 1934 by adding "... the term 'public interest, convenience and necessity' shall not be construed to give the Commission jurisdiction to require the provision of broadcast time to any person or persons or for the expression of any viewpoint or viewpoints."
- Chapter 7 (pp. 155-167)

Sec. 3 Strikes out section 312(a)(7)
of the Communications Act of
1934 which authorizes the Commission to revoke a station
license or construction permit:
" \* \* \* for willful or repeated failure to allow reasonable access to or to permit
purchase of reasonable amounts
of time for the use of a broadcasting station by a legally
qualified candidate for Federal
elective office on behalf of his
candidacy."

Chapter 7 (pp. 143-154)

Sec. 4 Repeals section 315 of the Communications Act of 1934--the "equal time" provisions.

Chapter 7 (pp. 143-154)

#### LEGISLATION--97TH CONGRESS

#### GAO WORK

S. 270 Radio Deregulation Act of 1981

Selected FCC Regulatory Policies: Their Purpose and Consequences for Commercial Radio and TV (CED-79-62; June 4, 1979)

- Sec. 2(a) Establishes indefinite license terms for radio broadcasting stations
- Chapter 2 (pp. 8-14, 30-32, 34-35)
- Sec. 3 Allows the Commission to grant an application in the radio broadcast service based on a system of random selection when there is more than one qualified applicant.

Chapter 2 (pp. 20-35)

- Sec. 4 Prohibits the Commission C from requiring radio broadcast licensees to: (1) provide news, public affairs, locally produced, or any other programs; (2) adhere to a particular programming format; (3) maintain program logs; (4) ascertain the problems, needs, and interests of its service area; and (5) restrict the length or frequency of commercial announcements.
  - Chapters 3 and 4

S. 601 Television Licensing and Renewal Act of 1981

Selected FCC Regulatory Policies: Their Purpose and Consequences for Commercial Radio and TV (CED-79-62; June 4, 1979)

- Sec. 2 Extends television broadcast license terms from 3 to 5 years.
- Chapter 2 (pages 8-14, 31-35)
- Sec. 3(i) Permits the Commission to employ a system of random selection to choose among qualified applicants for an initial license or construction permit in the television broadcast service.

Chapter 2 (pp. 14-35)

#### LEGISLATION--97TH CONGRESS

#### GAO WORK

- (j) Establishes criteria for renewal of television broadcast licenses.
- Chapters 2 and 3
- (k) Bars the Commission when con- Chapter 2 (pp. 20-35) sidering applications for renewal of television broadcast station licenses, from considering applications from other persons for the facilities for which renewal is sought.
- S. 821 Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1981

Authorizes appropriations for the Federal Communications Commission for fiscal years 1982, 1983, and 1984. Organizing the Federal Communications Commission for Greater Management and Regulatory Effectiveness (CED-79-107, July 30, 1979) Chapter 2 (pp. 21-22, 27)

Establishes a schedule of charges for Commission services.

Establishing a Proper Fee Schedule Under the Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1952 (CED-77-70, May 6, 1977)

Selected FCC Regulatory Policies: Their Purpose and Consequences for Commercial Radio and TV (CED-79-62, June 4, 1979) Chapter 8

- S. 898 Telecommunications Competition and Deregulation Act of 1981
  - Sec. 227 Sets forth conditions relating to the establishment of fully separated affiliates by dominant-regulated carriers.

Letter to Chairman, House Judiciary Committee commenting on certain aspects of H.R. 6121, the Telecommunications Act of 1980 B-200146 (CED 0-371, Sept. 5, 1980)

#### LEGISLATION--97TH CONGRESS

#### House of Representatives

H.R. 1297 Radio Broadcasting Deregulation Act of 1981

Prohibits the Commission Sec. 2 from requiring commercial radio broadcast stations: (1) to limit or otherwise restrict the amount of broadcasting time which may be devoted to the broadcasting of commercials or other advertising messages or programs; (2) to ascertain the problems, needs, and interests of persons residing in the service areas of the stations involved; (3) to establish or maintain comprehensive programing logs or other similar records; (4) to obtain any approval or authorization from the Commission with respect to any change in the program-ing format of such stations; or (5) to devote any portion of broadcasting time to the broadcasting of nonentertainment programing.

H.R. 1298 Broadcast Licensing Act of 1981

Sec. 2 Extends television broadcast license terms from three to five years and radio broadcast license terms from three to ten years.

#### GAO WORK

Selected FCC Regulatory Policies: Their Purpose and Consequences for Commercial Radio and TV (CED-79-62, June 4, 1979)

Chapters 3 and 4

Selected FCC Regulatory Policies: Their Purpose and Consequences for Commercial Radio and TV (CED-79-62, June 4, 1979)

Chapter 2 (pp. 8-14, 30-32, 34-35)

#### LEGISLATION--97TH CONGRESS

#### GAO WORK

Sec. 3 Establishes criteria for renewal of broadcast licenses; bars the Commission, when considering renewal applications for broadcast licenses, from considering applications from other persons for the facilities for which renewal is sought.

Chapters 3 and 5

Sec. 4 Allows the Commission to issue broadcast construction permits to initial applicants without hearings if the only basis for a hearing is that the application is mutually exclusive with another application as the result of engineering or technical factors.

Chapter 2 (pp. 20-35)

H.R. 1801 Amendment to Title I, Communications Act of 1934

Organizing the Federal Communications Commission for Greater Management and Regulatory Effectiveness (CED-79-107, July 30, 1979)

Authorizes appropriations for the Commission for fiscal years 1982, 1983, and 1984 Chapter 2 (pp. 21-22, 27)

H.R. 2964 Amendment to Title III, Communications Act of 1934

Requires the Commission to collect certain financial information from commercial broadcast station licensees and to make such information available for public inspection

Selected FCC Regulatory Policies: Their Purpose and Consequences for Commercial Radio and TV (CED-79-62, June 4, 1979) Chapter 3 (pp. 62-66, 73-75)

#### LEGISLATION--97TH CONGRESS

#### GAO WORK

- H.R. 3239 Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1981
  - Sec. 6 Authorizes appropriations for the Commission for Fiscal Year 1982
  - Sec. 3 Requires the Commission to develop fee schedules for specified Commission services

Organizing the Federal Communications Commission for Greater Management and Regulatory Effectiveness (CED-79-107, July 30, 1979) Chapter 2 (pp. 21-22, 27)

Establishing a Proper Fee Schedule Under the Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1952 (CED-77-70, May 6, 1977)

Selected FCC Regulatory Policies: Their Purpose and Consequences for Commercial Radio and TV (CED-79-62, June 4, 1979) Chapter 8